

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for lowering at least one risk factor in a patient suffering from said risk factor, comprising

identifying that said patient suffers from said at least one risk factor; and
administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, thereby lowering said risk factor, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises a risk factor is selected from the group consisting of high blood pressure, high blood glucose concentration, LDL (low-density lipoprotein) susceptibility to retention, LDL-susceptibility to aggregation, blood total cholesterol and LDL levels, and high blood triglycerides and VLDL (very low density lipoprotein) concentration.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one risk factor is comprises high blood pressure ~~LDL susceptibility to aggregation and serum LDL susceptibility to retention.~~

3-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one risk factor is comprises high blood glucose concentration.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said patient suffers from at least two risk factors, at least one of which is for simultaneously lowering at least two risk factors in a patient, comprising
~~administering to said patient in need of lowering said at least two risk factors and effective amount of a licorice extract which is water insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, thereby lowering said at least two risk factors;~~
~~wherein each of said at least two risk factors is selected from the group consisting of high blood pressure, high blood glucose concentration, LDL (low density lipoprotein) susceptibility to retention, LDL susceptibility to aggregation, blood total cholesterol and LDL levels, and high blood triglycerides and VLDL (very low density lipoprotein) concentration, and at least one selected from the group consisting of high LDL (low-density lipoprotein) susceptibility to retention, high LDL~~

susceptibility to aggregation, high blood total cholesterol, high LDL levels, and high VLDL (very low-density lipoprotein) concentration.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7, for treating a patient suffering from high blood triglycerides and high LDL (low-density lipoprotein) levels without decreasing the HDL (high density lipoprotein) level of said patient, comprising

administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, thereby treating the high blood triglycerides and high LDL levels without decreasing the HDL level of said patient.

9. (Currently amended) A method for treating a patient suffering from at least one condition, comprising

identifying that said patient suffers from said at least one condition; and
_____ administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, wherein said at least one condition is selected from the group consisting of hypertension, and chronic renal failure, ~~hypercholesterolemia, and~~ ~~hypertriglyceridemia.~~

10. (Currently amended) A method for preventing a patient from suffering from at least one condition, comprising

identifying that said patient is in high risk to suffer from said at least one condition; and
_____ administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, wherein said at least one condition is selected from the group consisting of hypertension and, chronic renal failure, ~~hypercholesterolemia, and~~ ~~hypertriglyceridemia.~~

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein comprising obtaining said~~ licorice extract is an ethanolic extract in a method comprising extracting licorice in ethanol.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 7, comprising obtaining wherein said licorice extract in a method comprising extracting licorice in ethanol~~is an ethanolic extract.~~

14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, comprising obtaining wherein said licorice extract in a method comprising extracting licorice in ethanol~~is an ethanolic extract.~~

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 9, comprising obtaining wherein said licorice extract in a method comprising extracting licorice in ethanol~~is an ethanolic extract.~~

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 10, comprising obtaining wherein said licorice extract in a method comprising extracting licorice in ethanol~~is an ethanolic extract.~~

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said licorice extract dissolves in ethanol.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein said licorice extract dissolves in ethanol.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said licorice extract dissolves in ethanol.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said licorice extract dissolves in ethanol.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said licorice extract dissolves in ethanol.

23. (New) A method for lowering at least one risk factor in a patient suffering from said at least one risk factor, comprising

identifying that said patient suffers from said at least one risk factor; and

administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, thereby lowering said risk factor, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises a risk factor selected from the group consisting of high blood total cholesterol, high blood LDL levels, high blood triglycerides concentration and high blood VLDL (very low-density lipoprotein) concentration.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises high blood total cholesterol.

25. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises high LDL levels.

26. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises high blood triglycerides concentration.

27. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein said at least one risk factor comprises high blood VLDL concentration.

28. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein said at least one condition comprises hypertension.

29. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein said at least one condition comprises chronic renal failure.

30. (New) A method for treating a patient suffering from at least one condition, comprising
identifying that said patient suffers from said at least one condition; and
administering to said patient an effective amount of a licorice extract which is water-insoluble and free from glycyrrhizinic acid, wherein said at least one condition comprises a condition selected from the group consisting of hypercholestoremia and hypertriglyceridemia.

31. (New) The method according to claim 30, wherein said at least one condition comprises hypercholesterolemia.

32. (New) The method according to claim 30, wherein said at least one condition comprises hypertriglyceridemia.